# The Status of Women in Haywood County



### STATUS OF WOMEN IN HAYWOOD COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW

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INDICATOR	Data	COUNTY
		RANKING
		(of 95 Counties)
COMPOSITE EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS INDEX	39.00	23
Women's Annual Earnings	\$21,361	37
Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's Earnings (Wage Gap)	78.2%	9
Women's Labor Force Participation Rate	42.4%	82
Female Unemployment Rate	6.9%	63
Women in Managerial or Professional Occupations	27.3%	44
COMPOSITE ECONOMIC AUTONOMY INDEX	73.63	91
Businesses that are Women-Owned (% of total)	23.0%	42
Women with a Four-Year College Degree (%)	9.1%	65
Women With a High School Diploma (%)	66.5%	66
Female High School Dropout Rate	8.1%	61
Women with any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage (%)	83.5%	90
Women Earning Incomes Below the Poverty Level (%)	20.7%	81
Single Female-Headed Households Living In Poverty (%)	18.0%	94
Adolescent Pregnancy Rate (Ages 10-19)	47.3	90

**Report Overview**: This publication on the Status of Women in Haywood County is part of a statewide publication of the Tennessee Economic Council on Women, *The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties*, 2004. The Economic Council on Women is a State agency created under TCA § 4-50-100, et seq. by the One Hundredth General Assembly in 1998 to address the economic needs of Tennessee women.

## The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties HAYWOOD

Women have taken remarkable strides towards economic equality, from education to earnings to political participation. Women are now pursuing goals such as business ownership, leadership roles in their careers, and election to state and federal political office. However, obstacles still exist in the climb toward equality. Nation-wide, equal numbers of men and women are obtaining four-year college degrees; however, these gains have not translated into pay equity. The average college-educated woman working full time earns \$44,200 a year compared to \$61,800 for men in the same category. Women are still under-represented in many of the highest paying, fastest growing sectors of the economy. Helping women break into these traditionally male-dominated areas like computer science, engineering, mathematics and technology, as well as all skilled-labor positions, gives women tools for self-sufficiency and understanding of their personal capabilities, and these advances are good for the economy of our counties and of our state.

#### **Employment and Earnings**

The employment and earnings index includes data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation, female unemployment, and percentages of women in professional or managerial occupations.

- ♦ Haywood County women median annual earnings of \$21,361, over \$5,000 less annually than women in nearby Shelby County.
- ♦ Annually, women in Haywood County earn only 78.2% of what men make.
- Making up 49.1% of the county's workforce, women have a labor force participation rate of only 42.4%.
- Of the female workforce, 27.3% hold managerial or professional jobs while 21.4% of all employed persons in the county work in management or professional occupations.

#### **Economic Autonomy**

The economic autonomy index includes information on educational attainment, business ownership and general quality of life issues.

- ♦ 66.5% of women in Haywood County have a high school diploma, and 65.6% of all county residents have a high school degree. About the same percentages of men and women have high school diplomas.
- 9.1% of women in the county having a four-year college degree, but 11.1% of all county residents have at least a bachelor's degree. Though about equal percentage of men and women graduate from high school, higher percentages of men have college degrees.
- A Haywood County ranks 90th among the 95 counties in health insurance coverage for women. More than 16 percent of women in the county have no kind of health insurance coverage.
- More than 20 percent of the female workforce in Haywood County earns an income below the poverty level.
- ♦ Though 16.3% of families in Haywood County are in poverty, 33.6% of families with a female householder and no husband present live in poverty.
- A Haywood ranks in the bottom ten counties in 4 of the 8 economic autonomy indicators, including adolescent pregnancy rate which stands at 47.3 per 1,000 girls and ranks Haywood 90th among counties.
- Only 23.0% of privately-owned county businesses are owned by women, but women-owned businesses account for only 7.5% of income and receipts from all private firms in the county.

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		Haywood County	Rank of Haywood County	Highest Ranking County
Earnings	Median Annual Earnings for FT Females	\$21,361	37	Williamson: \$32,243
	Wage Gap	78.2%	9	Davidson: 82.1%
Employment	Female Labor Force Participation Rate	42.4%	42	Rutherford: 50.9%
	Female Unemployment Rate	6.9%	63	Pickett: 1.5%
	Percent of Employed Females in Management, Prof., and Related Occupations	27.3%	44	Anderson: 44.6%
	Women Owned Business % of Total	23.0%	42	Moore: 63.3%
Education	% of Females with 4 Year Degree or Better	9.1%	65	Williamson: 39.5%
	% of Females with High School Diploma (or equiva- lency)	66.5%	66	Williamson: 90.6%
	Female Dropout Rate	8.1%	61	Clay/Pickett: 0.0%
Lifestyles	% of Women with any kind of Health Insurance Coverage	83.5%	90	Williamson: 100%
	% of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	20.7%	81	Williamson: 5.4%
	% of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	18.0%	94	Williamson: 2.5%
	Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	47.3	90	Williamson: 1.2%

### ABOUT THE COUNCIL AND THIS REPORT

Haywood County

The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percentage of women in managerial occupations.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of households headed by a single female, single female headed households living in poverty, percentage of women with health insurance, the high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

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#### Visit the Tennessee Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

Sources				
Earnings and Employment				
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Earnings)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Percent of Employed Females in Management, Professional, and Related Occupations	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Economic Autonomy				
Women-owned Business, Percent of total	Economic Census, 1997			
Percent of Females w/4yr Degree or Better	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Percent of Females with a High School Diploma (or equivalency)	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Female Dropout Rate	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Percent of Women with Any Kind of Health Insurance Coverage	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002			
Percent of Women Living Below Poverty Level Incomes	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Percent of all Female Headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S Census Bureau, 2000			
Rate of Pregnancy of Girls Aged 10-19 per 1000	Tennessee Department of Health, 2002			
Voter Demographics and Elected County Officials	National Association of Counties			